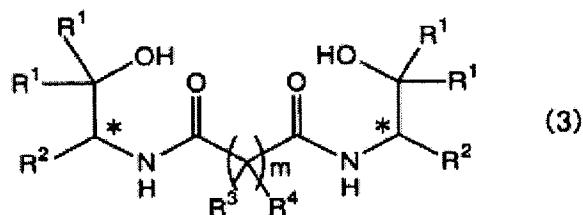


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for producing an optically active bisamidoalcohol compound represented by the formula (3):



wherein R¹ represents a C1-6 alkyl group, an optionally substituted phenyl group, an optionally substituted aralkyl group or a hydrogen atom, or two R¹'s, which are bonded to the same carbon atom, are bonded to form a ring together with the carbon atom to which they are bonded,

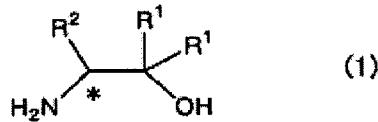
R² represents a C1-6 alkyl group, an optionally substituted phenyl group, a 1-naphthyl group, a 2-naphthyl group or an optionally substituted aralkyl group,

R³ and R⁴ are the same or different, and each represents a hydrogen atom or C1-3 alkyl group,

m represents an integer of 0 to 2, and

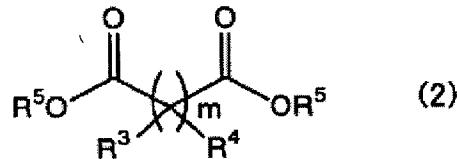
* represents an asymmetric center,

which comprises reacting an optically active aminoalcohol compound represented by the formula (1):



wherein R^1 , R^2 and * are as defined above,

with a diester compound represented by the formula (2):



wherein R^3 , R^4 and m are as defined above and R^5 represents a C1-3 alkyl group,

in the presence of a lithium compound,

wherein the lithium compound is at least one lithium compound selected from lithium hydroxide, a lithium alkoxide and a lithium halide.

2. (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein R^1 represents a C1-6 alkyl group,

a phenyl group which may be substituted with at least one selected from a C1-6 alkyl group and a C1-6 alkoxy group,

a C7-16 aralkyl group which may be substituted with at least one substituent selected from a C1-6 alkyl group and a C1-6 alkoxy group, or a hydrogen atom, or

two R^1 's, which are bonded to the same carbon atom, are bonded to form a C3-6 cycloalkane together with the carbon atom to which they are bonded, and

R^2 represents a C1-6 alkyl group,

a phenyl group which may be substituted with at least one selected from a C1-6 alkyl group and a C1-6 alkoxy group, or
a C7-16 aralkyl group which may be substituted with at least one substituent selected from a C1-6 alkyl group and a C1-6 alkoxy group.

3. (original): The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein R² represents a phenyl, 3-methylphenyl, 4-methylphenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl or 4-methoxyphenyl group.

4. (canceled).

5. (currently amended): The method according to claim [[4]]1, wherein the lithium alkoxide is lithium methoxide or lithium ethoxide.

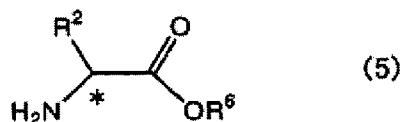
6. (currently amended): The method according to claim [[4]]1, wherein the lithium halide is lithium chloride.

7. (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the reaction is carried out while removing an alcohol produced as a by-product represented by the formula (4):



wherein R⁵ represents a C1-4 alkyl group.

8. (original): The method according to claim 1, wherein the optically active aminoalcohol compound of the formula (1) is the optically active aminoalcohol compound obtained by reacting an optically active amino acid or the ester thereof represented by the formula (5):



wherein R² and * are as defined above and R⁶ represents a C1-4 alkyl group or a hydrogen atom, with a borohydride compound.